

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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PA-04 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 AID-20

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TAGS: UNGA, ECOSOC, SENV

SUBJ: 28TH GA: UN ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM, ITEM 50,
SECOND COMMITTEE

1. THIRD SESSION OF COMMITTEE II RE ITEM 50 TAKEN
UP WITH STATEMENTS BY UKRANIAN SSR, JAMAICA, THE SUDAN,
ISRAEL, AUSTRALIA, IRAN, USSR AND ARGENTINA, WITH JAMAICA
INTRODUCING THE THIRD RESOLUTION RE ITEM 50 (L.1314:
CRITERIA GOVERNING MULTILATERAL FINANCING OF HOUSING AND
HUMAN SETTLEMENTS).

2. PRIORITIES. DELEGATES CONTINUED REITERATING SUPPORT
OF UNEP, WITH SOME DELEGATIONS SHOWING SUPPORT BY
RECITING STEPS TAKEN BY OWN GOVERNMENTS REGARDING
ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS. AUSTRALIA AND USSR ONLY DELEGATES
TO HOLD FORTH ON SPECIFIC PRIORITIES, USSR INDICATED
UNEP, SHOULD DEAL WITH PRACTICAL PROBLEMS AND CITED:
AIR POLLUTION, WATER POLLUTION, OCEAN POLLUTION, NON-
WASTE TECHNOLOGICAL PROCESSES, RATIONAL USE LAND
RESOURCES, MONITORING OF BIOSPHERE, TOXICITY CONTROLS
OVER INTERNAL COMBUSTION EXHAUSTS, DESULPHERING SOLID
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AND LIQUID FUELS, PLUS OTHERS. MADE POINT THAT SOME

ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS BETTER HANDLED ON REGIONAL OR NATIONAL BASIS (POLLUTION OF SEAS NEAR COASTS, SEMI-CLOSED AND CLOSED SEAS). ALSO STATED, AS EXPECTED, THAT FINANCING OF ENVIRONMENTAL NEEDS COULD BE ACCOMMODATED FROM SVINGS OCCASIONED BY DISARMAMENT. AUSTRALIA STATED THAT CONTROL OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS TESTING HAD THE HIGHEST ENVIRONMENTAL PRIORITY. SOME DELEGATES COMMENTED FAVORABLY ON BALANCE STRUCK IN UNEP PRIORITIES BETWEEN DEVELOPED COUNTRIES AND LDC'S (E.G. IRAN, AUSTRALIA).

3. HUMAN SETTLEMENTS CONFEX (RES 1312). SUDAN, AUSTRALIA, IRAN INDICATED SUPPORT OF CONFEX. UKRANIAN SSR INDICATED COSTS TOO HIGH AND PERSONNEL ESTIMATES TOO GENEROUS. USSR, PROBABLY IN REFERENCE TO CONFEX, STATED THAT DISCUSSION OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS PERHAPS BEST CONFINED TO ECOLOGICAL ASPECTS.

4. ARGENTINE RESOLUTION (RES 1305). ARGENTINA ARUGED AT LENGTH IN FAVOR OF RES 1305. FOLLOWING LEAD OF BRAZIL (PREVIOUSLY REPORTED) ARGUMENT WAS ESSENTIALLY LEGALISTIC ONE, WITH MAJOR THEME THAT "PRIOR CONSULTATION" A LOGICAL AND PROGRESSIVE DEVELOPMENT IN INTERNATIONAL LAW. AS PRECEDENTS ARGENTINA CITED AGREEMENTS MADE AT OAU, AGREEMENTS OVER THE NIGER RIVER BASIN, UNDERSTANDINGS OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMISSION AND ARGUMENTS MADE BY THE INTERNATIONAL LAW COMMISSION. GENERAL DRIFT WAS THAT RES 1305 REFLECTS RECOGNITION OF NORM OF CIVILIZED CONDUCT, AND THAT ITS ADOPTION WOULD BE A VICTORY FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION WITH ITS DEFEAT A VICTORY FOR PREJUDICIAL SELFISHNESS. WITHOUT REFERRING SPECIFICALLY TO RES 1305, BOTH UKRANIAN SSR AND USSR STATED THAT THEY HAVE CONSISTENTLY SUPPORTED PRINCIPLE OF NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY OVER NATURAL RESOURCES.

5. MULTILATERAL FINANCING OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS (RES 1314). JAMAICA INTRODUCED RES 1314. IN STATEMENT JAMAICA INDICATED THAT REPORT A/9163 OF THE SYG DID NOT ADEQUATELY RESPOND TO RES 2998 (XXVIII) AND THAT HENCE RES 1314 WAS NECESSARY. IN SPECULATING ON THE REASON WHY REPORT A/9163 INADEQUATE JAMAICA WONDERED IF PERHAPS THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

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HAD INFLUENCED PREPARATION OF THE REPORT.
BENNETT

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